

From: Paul C. Dain
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 3:19pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov
US Justice Dept., 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am writing to express my support for this settlement reached between your Department of Justice and Microsoft. While the specific terms of the settlement encompassed more than did the lawsuit itself, the settlement at least brings this entire unfortunate chapter to a close.

While I do not necessarily agree with everything that Microsoft has done, I do feel that there could have been any number of preliminary steps that could have been taken before plunging our government into a costly, protracted federal lawsuit. There is an erroneous assumption that Microsoft's products should somehow be in the public domain, as if they, too, are a government entity. Clearly they are not. Microsoft, like any other private American business, should be free to dictate the terms under which it will grant license to use its product.

Sincerely,

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